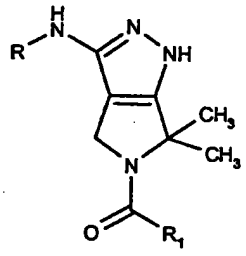
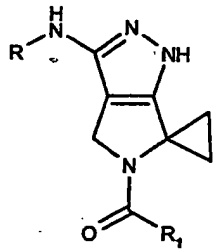
CLAIMS

1) A method for treating cell proliferative disorders caused by and/or associated with an altered cell cycle dependent kinase activity, by administering to a mammal in need thereof an effective amount of a compound represented by formula (Ia) or (Ib)



(Ia)



(Ib)

wherein

R is a group -COR^a, -$CONHR^a$ or -$CONR^aR^b$ wherein R^a and R^b are, each independently, hydrogen or an optionally substituted group selected from straight or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, heterocyclyl or heterocyclylalkyl or; together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bonded, R^a and R^b may form an optionally substituted 5 or 6 membered heterocycle optionally containing one additional heteroatom or heteroatomic group selected among N, NH, O or S;

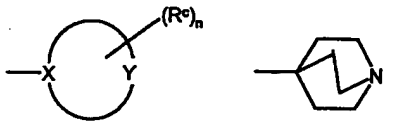
R_1 is selected from the group consisting of:

a) straight or branched C_3-C_4 alkyl;

b) cycloalkyl, cycloalkyl-alkyl or alkyl-cycloalkyl wherein the cycloalkyl moiety comprises any C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl group and wherein the alkyl moiety comprises any straight or branched C_1-C_4 alkyl group:

c) 3-methylthienyl-2-yl; 2-thienyl; phenyl; 2,6-difluorophenyl; 4-(aminosulfonyl)phenyl; 4-(dimethylaminomethyl)phenyl; 4-(4-methylpiperazinyl)methyl-phenyl;

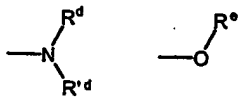
d) a group of formula (IIa) or (IIb):



(IIa) (IIb)

wherein, in formula (IIa), the cycle represents a 5 to 7 membered heterocyclic ring wherin X, directly linked to the rest of the molecule, represents a carbon or nitrogen atom; Y is a carbon, nitrogen, oxygen or sulfur atom or it is an NH group, provided that at least one of X and Y is other than a carbon atom; R^c is, independently from each other and in any one of the free positions of the heterocyclic ring of formula (IIa), a halogen atom or hydroxy group or it is an optionally substituted group selected from straight or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, amino, aminocarbonyl, carboxy, oxo (=O), alkoxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyl or arylcarbonyl; and n is 0 or an integer from 1 to 4;

e) a group of formula (IIc) or (IId):



(IIc) (IId)

wherein R^d, R'^d and R^c represent, the same or different and independently from each other, a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from hydroxy (-OH), aminocarbonyl (-$CONH_2$) or methylaminocarbonyl (-$CONHCH_3$);

provided that in formula (Ia), when R_1 is a group of formula (IIc) and one of R^d or R'^d is a hydrogen atom whilst the other of R^d or R'^d is ethyl or n-butyl, then R is other than -COR^a with R^a as 3-bromophenyl, benzyl, 4-tert-butylphenyl, 4-tert-butylphenylmethyl, 4-fluorophenylmethyl, cyclopropyl or 2-naphthylmethyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2) The method according to claim 1 wherein the cell proliferative disorder is selected from the group consisting of cancer, Alzheimer's disease, viral infections, auto-immune diseases and neurodegenerative disorders.

3) The method according to claim 2 wherein the cancer is selected from the group consisting of carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, hematopoietic tumors of myeloid or lymphoid lineage, tumors of mesenchymal origin, tumors of the central and peripheral nervous system, melanoma, seminoma, teratocarcinoma, osteosarcoma, xeroderma pigmentosum, keratoxanthoma, thyroid follicular cancer, and Kaposi's sarcoma.

4) The method according to claim 1 wherein the cell proliferative disorder is selected from the group consisting of benign prostate hyperplasia, familial adenomatosis polyposis, neuro-fibromatosis, psoriasis, vascular smooth cell proliferation associated with atherosclerosis, pulmonary fibrosis, arthritis, glomerulonephritis and post-surgical stenosis and restenosis.

5) The method according to claim 1 which provides tumor angiogenesis and metastasis inhibition.

6) The method according to claim 1 which provides organ transplant rejection and host versus graft disease treatments.

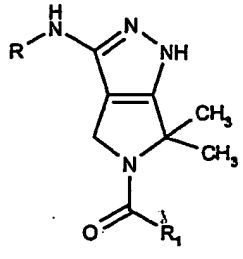
7) The method according to claim 1 which provides treatment or prevention of radiotherapy-induced or chemotherapy-induced alopecia.

8) The method according to claim 1 further comprising subjecting the mammal in need thereof to a radiation therapy or chemotherapy regimen in combination with at least one cytostatic or cytotoxic agent.

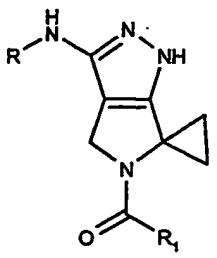
9) The method according to claim 1 wherein the mammal in need thereof is a human.

10) A method for inhibiting cyclin dependent kinase activity which comprises contacting the said kinase with an effective amount of a compound as defined in claim 1.

11) A compound represented by formula (Ia) or (Ib)



(Ia)



(Ib)

wherein

R is a group $-COR^a$, $-CONHR^a$ or $-CONR^aR^b$ wherein R^a and R^b are, each independently, hydrogen or an optionally substituted group selected from straight or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, heterocyclyl or heterocyclylalkyl or; together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bonded, R^a and R^b may form an optionally substituted 5 or 6 membered heterocycle optionally containing one additional heteroatom or heteroatomic group selected among N, NH, O or S;

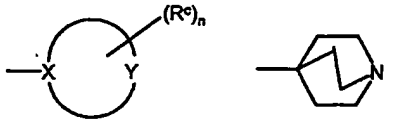
R_1 is selected from the group consisting of:

a) straight or branched C_3-C_4 alkyl;

b) cycloalkyl, cycloalkyl-alkyl or alkyl-cycloalkyl wherein the cycloalkyl moiety comprises any C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl group and wherein the alkyl moiety comprises any straight or branched C_1-C_4 alkyl group:

c) 3-methylthienyl-2-yl; 2-thienyl; phenyl; 2,6-difluorophenyl; 4-(aminosulfonyl)phenyl; 4-(dimethylaminomethyl)phenyl; 4-(4-methylpiperazinyl)methyl-phenyl;

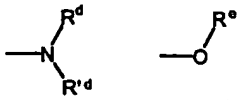
d) a group of formula (IIa) or (IIb):



(IIa) (IIb)

wherein, in formula (IIa), the cycle represents a 5 to 7 membered heterocyclic ring wherin X, directly linked to the rest of the molecule, represents a carbon or nitrogen atom; Y is a carbon, nitrogen, oxygen or sulfur atom or it is an NH group, provided that at least one of X and Y is other than a carbon atom; R^c is, independently from each other and in any one of the free positions of the heterocyclic ring of formula (IIa), a halogen atom or hydroxy group or it is an optionally substituted group selected from straight or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, amino, aminocarbonyl, carboxy, oxo (=O), alkoxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyl or arylcarbonyl; and n is 0 or an integer from 1 to 4;

e) a group of formula (IIc) or (IId):



(IIc) (IId)

wherein R^d, R'^d and R^e represent, the same or different and independently from each other, a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from hydroxy (-OH), aminocarbonyl ($-CONH_2$) or methylaminocarbonyl ($-CONHCH_3$);

provided that in formula (Ia), when R_1 is a group of formula (IIc) and one of R^d or R'^d is a hydrogen atom whilst the other of R^d or R'^d is ethyl or n-butyl, then R is other than $-COR^a$ with R^a as 3-bromophenyl, benzyl, 4-tert-butylphenyl, 4-tert-butylphenylmethyl, 4-fluorophenylmethyl, cyclopropyl or 2-naphthylmethyl;

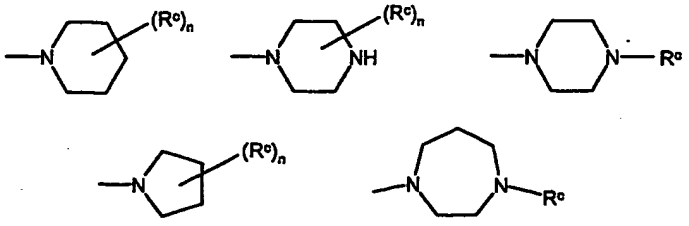
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

12) A compound of formula (Ia) or (Ib) according to claim 11 wherein R is a group $-COR^a$, R^a is as defined in claim 11 and R_1 is tert-butyl.

13) A compound of formula (Ia) or (Ib) according to claim 11 wherein R is a group $-CONHR^a$, R^a is as defined in claim 11 and R_1 is tert-butyl.

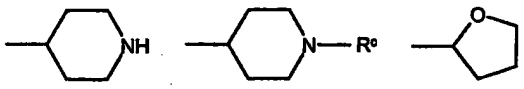
14) A compound of formula (Ia) or (Ib) according to claim 11 wherein R is a group $-CONR^aR^b$, R^a and R^b are as defined in claim 11 and R_1 is tert-butyl.

15) A compound of formula (Ia) or (Ib) according to claim 11 wherein R is as defined in claim 11 and R_1 is a group of formula (IIa) selected from:



wherein n and R^c are as defined in claim 11.

16) A compound of formula (Ia) or (Ib) according to claim 11 wherein R is as defined in claim 11 and R_1 is a group of formula (IIa) selected from:



wherein R^c is as defined in claim 11.

17) A compound of formula (Ia) according to claim 11, wherein R is a group $-COR^a$ with R^a as 4-fluorophenyl or cyclobutyl, and R_1 is as defined in claim 11.

18) A compound of formula (Ia) according to claim 11 wherein R is as defined in claim 11 and R_1 is a group selected from tert-butyl, 1-methyl-piperidyl-4-yl, 1-methyl-piperazinyl-4-yl, 2-(R,S)-tetrahydrofuranyl-2-yl, 2-(R)-tetrahydrofuranyl-2-yl or 2-(S)-tetrahydrofuranyl-2-yl.

19) A compound of formula (Ia) or (Ib), according to claim 11, wherein any of R^a, R^b and R^c is a group, as defined in claim 11, optionally further substituted in one or more of their free positions, by groups independently selected from: halogen, nitro, oxo groups (=O), cyano, alkyl, polyfluorinated alkyl, polyfluorinated alkoxy, alkenyl, alkynyl, hydroxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, heterocyclyl, cycloalkyl, hydroxy, alkoxy, aryloxy, heterocyclyloxy, methylenedioxy, alkylcarbonyloxy, arylcarbonyloxy, cycloalkenyloxy, alkylideneaminooxy, carboxy, alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, cycloalkyloxycarbonyl, amino, ureido, alkylamino, dialkylamino, arylamino, diarylamino, formylamino, alkylcarbonylamino, arylcarbonylamino, heterocyclylcarbonylamino, alkoxycarbonylamino, alkoxyimino, alkylsulfonylamino, arylsulfonylamino, formyl, alkylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, cycloalkylcarbonyl, heterocyclylcarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, alkylaminocarbonyl, dialkylaminocarbonyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, aminosulfonyl, alkylaminosulfonyl, dialkylaminosulfonyl, arylthio and alkylthio.

20) A compound of formula (Ia) or (Ib), optionally in the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, selected from the group consisting of:

N-{6,6-dimethyl-5-[(1-methylpiperidin-4-yl)carbonyl]-2,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrazol-3-yl}cyclobutanecarboxamide;

N-[5-(2,2-dimethylpropanoyl)-6,6-dimethyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrazol-3-yl]-4-fluorobenzamide;

N-[5-(2,2-dimethylpropanoyl)-2,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrazol-6-spirocyclopropan-3-yl]-4-fluorobenzamide;

N-{6,6-dimethyl-5-[(2R)-tetrahydrofuran-2-ylcarbonyl]-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrazol-3-yl}-4-fluorobenzamide;

N-{6,6-dimethyl-5-[(2S)-tetrahydrofuran-2-ylcarbonyl]-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrazol-3-yl}-4-fluorobenzamide;

N-{6,6-dimethyl-5-[(1-methylpiperidin-4-yl)carbonyl]-2,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrazol-3-yl}-4-fluorobenzamide;

N-[5-[(1-methylpiperidin-4-yl)carbonyl]-2,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrazol-6-spirocyclopropan-3-yl]-4-fluorobenzamide;

N-{6,6-dimethyl-5-[(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)carbonyl]-2,4,5,6-tetrahydro pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrazol-3-yl}-4-fluorobenzamide;

N-[5-[(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)carbonyl]-2,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrazol-6-spirocyclopropan-3-yl]-4-fluorobenzamide;

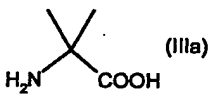
4-Chloro-N-[6,6-dimethyl-5-(4-pyrrolidin-1-ylmethyl-piperidine-1-carbonyl)-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrazol-3-yl]-benzamide.

21) Any compound of formula (Ia) and (Ib), optionally in the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, as specifically identified in tables III, IV, V and VI of the experimental section.

22) The compound A13-M1-B03 of formula (Ia) wherein R is a group -COR^a with R^a as cyclobutyl and R_1 is a group of formula (IIa) corresponding to 1-methyl-piperidyl-4-yl, either as such or in the form of hydrochloride or mesylate salt.

23) A process for preparing a compound of formula (Ia) or (Ib) as defined in claim 11, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, which process comprises:

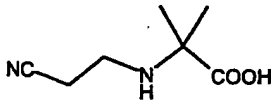
a) reacting a compound of formula (IIIa) or (IIIb)



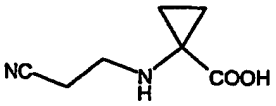
(IIIa)

(IIIb)

with acrylonitrile so as to obtain the corresponding derivative of formula (IVa) or (IVb)

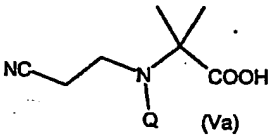


(IVa)

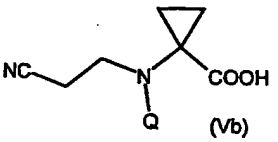


(IVb)

b) protecting the amino group of the compound of formula (IVa) or (IVb) so as to obtain the corresponding derivative of formula (Va) or (Vb)



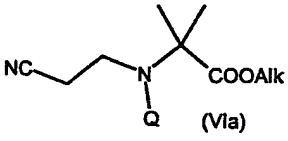
(Va)



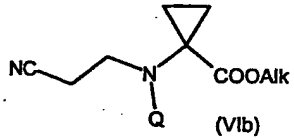
(Vb)

wherein Q is a suitable amino protecting group;

c) reacting the compound of formula (Va) or (Vb) with a suitable alkylating agent so as to obtain the corresponding ester derivative of formula (VIa) or (VIb)



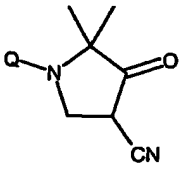
(VIa)



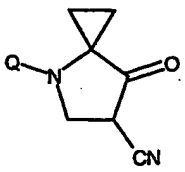
(VIb)

wherein Alk stands for a suitable C_1-C_4 alkyl group;

d) reacting the compound of formula (VIa) or (VIb) with sodium hydride (NaH) so as to obtain the corresponding derivative of formula (VIIa) or (VIIb)

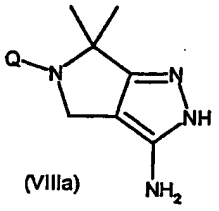


(VIIa)

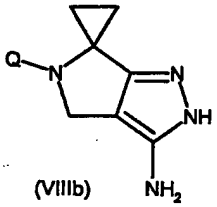


(VIIb)

e) reacting the compound of formula (VIIa) or (VIIb) with hydrazine hydrate so as to obtain the compound of formula (VIIIa) or (VIIIb)

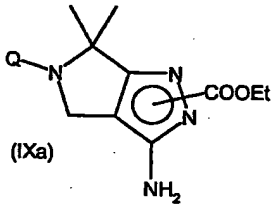


(VIIIa)

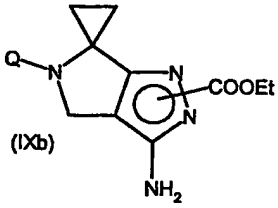


(VIIIb)

f) reacting the compound of formula (VIIIa) or (VIIIb) with ethyl chloroformate so as to obtain the derivative of formula (IXa) or (IXb), each one in any of the two regioisomeric forms



(IXa)



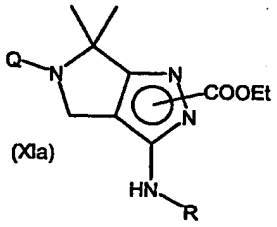
(IXb)

and reacting the compounds of formula (IXa) or (IXb) according to any one of the alternative steps (g.1), (g.2) or (g.3)

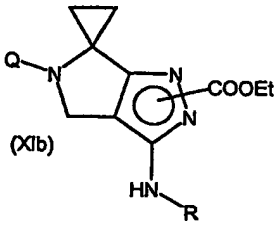
g.1) with a compound of formula (X)

$R^aCO\text{-}Z$ (X)

wherein R^a is as defined in claim 11 and Z is a halogen atom, so as to obtain the compound of formula (XIa) or (XIb)



(XIa)



(XIb)

wherein R is a group $-COR^a$;

g.2) with a compound of formula (XII)

$R^a\text{-}NCO$ (XII)

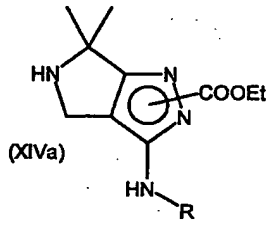
wherein R^a is as defined in claim 11, so as to obtain the compound of the formula (XIa) or (XIb) wherein R is a group -$CONHR^a$; or

g.3) with a suitable amine of formula (XIII) in the presence of triphosgene or of a suitable chloroformate

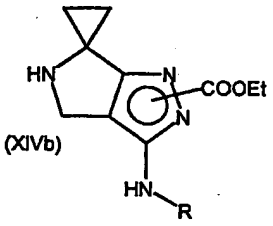
$$HNR^aR^b \quad (XIII)$$

wherein R^a and R^b are as defined in claim 11, so as to obtain the compound of formula (XIa) or (XIb) wherein R is a group -$CONR^aR^b$;

h) deprotecting the amino group of the compound of formula (XIa) or (XIb) prepared according to any one of steps from (g.1) to (g.3), so as to obtain the corresponding derivative of formula (XIVa) or (XIVb)



(XIVa)



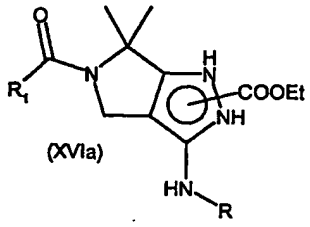
(XIVb)

wherein R has the above reported meanings; and reacting the compound of formula (XIVa) or (XIVb) according to any one of the alternative steps (i.1), (i.2), (i.3) or (i.4)

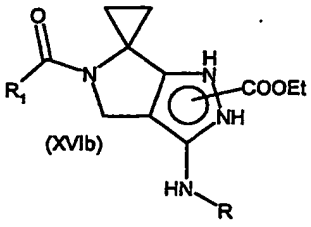
i.1) with an acyl halide derivative of formula (XV)

$$R_1\text{-}COZ \quad (XV)$$

wherein R_1 is as set forth in claim 11 under groups (a), (b), (c), (IIa) with X as a carbon atom and (IIb), and Z is a halogen atom, so as to obtain a compound of formula (XVIa) or (XVIb)



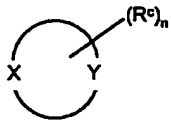
(XVIa)



(XVIb)

wherein R and R_1 are as above defined;

i.2) with a 5 to 7 membered heterocyclic compound of formula (XVII) or a suitable amine of formula (XVIII), in the presence of triphosgene



(XVII) $HN(R^d)R'^d$ (XVIII)

wherein X is NH and Y, R^c, n, R^d and R'^d are as defined in claim 11, so as to obtain the corresponding compounds of formula (XVIa) or (XVIb) wherein R is as above defined and R_1 is either a group of formula (IIa) with X as a nitrogen atom and R, Y, R^c and n as above defined, or of formula (IIc) wherein R^d and R'^d are as above defined;

i.3) with a carboxylic acid of formula (XIX) in the presence of a suitable condensing agent

R_1-COOH (XIX)

so as to obtain a compound of formula (XVIa) or (XVIb) wherein R_1 is as set forth in formula (Ia) or (Ib) under groups (a), (b), (c) or it is a group of formula (IIa) with X as a carbon atom or of formula (IIb), and R, Y, R^c and n are as above defined;

i.4) with a compound of formula (XX)

R_1-COZ (XX)

wherein R_1 is a group of formula (IId) and Z is a chlorine or bromine atom, so as to obtain the a compound of formula (XVIa) or (XVIb) wherein R is as defined above and R_1 is a group of formula (IId); and

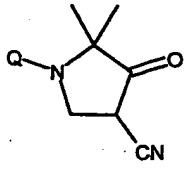
j) reacting the compound of formula (XVIa) or (XVIb) prepared according to any one of steps from (i.1) to (i.4) under basic conditions, so as to obtain the corresponding derivative of formula (Ia) or (Ib) wherein R and R_1 are as above defined; and, optionally,

k) converting them into other compounds of formula (Ia) or (Ib), respectively, and/or into pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

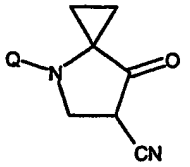
24) The process of claim 23 wherein, in step (b), Q is tert-butoxycarbonyl (boc).

25) The process of claim 23 wherein, in step (c), Alk is methyl.

26) The compounds of formula (VIIa) or (VIIb)



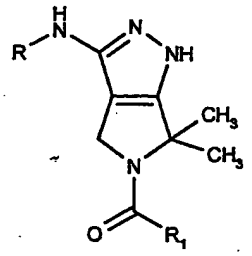
(VIIa)



(VIIb)

wherein Q represents a suitable nitrogen protecting group such as tert-butoxycarbonyl (boc).

27) A library of two or more compounds of formula (Ia)



(Ia)

wherein

R is a group -COR^a, -CONHR^a or -CONR^{a}R^b wherein R^a and R^b are, each independently, hydrogen or an optionally substituted group selected from straight or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, heterocyclyl or heterocyclylalkyl or; together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bonded, R^a and R^b may form an optionally substituted 5 or 6 membered heterocycle optionally containing one additional heteroatom or heteroatomic group selected among N, NH, O or S;

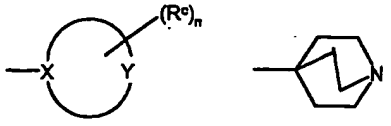
R_1 is selected from the group consisting of:

a) straight or branched C_3-C_4 alkyl;

b) cycloalkyl, cycloalkyl-alkyl or alkyl-cycloalkyl wherein the cycloalkyl moiety comprises any C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl group and wherein the alkyl moiety comprises any straight or branched C_1-C_4 alkyl group:

c) 3-methylthienyl-2-yl; 2-thienyl; phenyl; 2,6-difluorophenyl; 4-(aminosulfonyl)phenyl; 4-(dimethylaminomethyl)phenyl; 4-(4-methylpiperazinyl)methyl-phenyl;

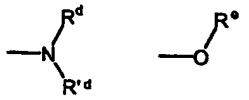
d) a group of formula (IIa) or (IIb):



(IIa) (IIb)

wherein, in formula (IIa), the cycle represents a 5 to 7 membered heterocyclic ring wherin X, directly linked to the rest of the molecule, represents a carbon or nitrogen atom; Y is a carbon, nitrogen, oxygen or sulfur atom or it is an NH group, provided that at least one of X and Y is other than a carbon atom; R^o is, independently from each other and in any one of the free positions of the heterocyclic ring of formula (IIa), a halogen atom or hydroxy group or it is an optionally substituted group selected from straight or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, amino, aminocarbonyl, carboxy, oxo (=O), alkoxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyl or arylcarbonyl; and n is 0 or an integer from 1 to 4;

e) a group of formula (IIc) or (IId):



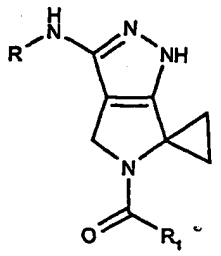
(IIc) (IId)

wherein R^d, R'^d and R^e represent, the same or different and independently from each other, a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from hydroxy (-OH), aminocarbonyl ($-CONH_2$) or methylaminocarbonyl ($-CONHCH_3$);

provided that in formula (Ia), when R_1 is a group of formula (IIc) and one of R^d or R'^d is a hydrogen atom whilst the other of R^d or R'^d is ethyl or n-butyl, then R is other than $-COR^a$ with R^a as 3-bromophenyl, benzyl, 4-tert-butylphenyl, 4-tert-butylphenylmethyl, 4-fluorophenylmethyl, cyclopropyl or 2-naphthylmethyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

28) A library of two or more compounds of formula (Ib)



(Ib)

wherein

R is a group -COR^a, -CONHR^a or -CONR^{a}R^b wherein R^a and R^b are, each independently, hydrogen or an optionally substituted group selected from straight or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, heterocyclyl or heterocyclylalkyl or; together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bonded, R^a and R^b may form an optionally substituted 5 or 6 membered heterocycle optionally containing one additional heteroatom or heteroatomic group selected among N, NH, O or S;

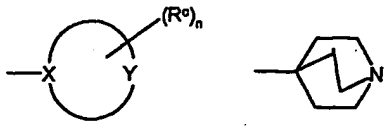
R_1 is selected from the group consisting of:

a) straight or branched C_3-C_4 alkyl;

b) cycloalkyl, cycloalkyl-alkyl or alkyl-cycloalkyl wherein the cycloalkyl moiety comprises any C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl group and wherein the alkyl moiety comprises any straight or branched C_1-C_4 alkyl group:

c) 3-methylthienyl-2-yl; 2-thienyl; phenyl; 2,6-difluorophenyl; 4-(aminosulfonyl)phenyl; 4-(dimethylaminomethyl)phenyl; 4-(4-methylpiperazinyl)methyl-phenyl;

d) a group of formula (IIa) or (IIb):

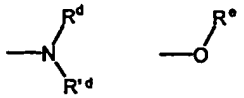


(IIa) (IIb)

wherein,in formula (IIa), the cycle represents a 5 to 7 membered heterocyclic ring wherin X, directly linked to the rest of the molecule, represents a carbon or nitrogen atom; Y is a carbon, nitrogen, oxygen or sulfur atom or it is an NH group, provided that at least one of

X and Y is other than a carbon atom; R^c is, independently from each other and in any one of the free positions of the heterocyclic ring of formula (IIa), a halogen atom or hydroxy group or it is an optionally substituted group selected from straight or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, amino, aminocarbonyl, carboxy, oxo (=O), alkoxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyl or arylcarbonyl; and n is 0 or an integer from 1 to 4;

e) a group of formula (IIc) or (IId):



(IIc) (IId)

wherein R^d, R'^d and R^e represent, the same or different and independently from each other, a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from hydroxy (-OH), aminocarbonyl (-$CONH_2$) or methylaminocarbonyl (-$CONHCH_3$);

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

29) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (Ia) or (Ib), as defined in claim 11, and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, carrier and/or diluent.

30) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 29 further comprising one or more chemotherapeutic agents.

31) A product or kit comprising a compound of formula (Ia) or (Ib) as defined in claim 11 or a pharmaceutical composition thereof as defined in claim 29, and one or more chemotherapeutic agents, as a combined preparation for simultaneous, separate or sequential use in anticancer therapy.

32) A compound of formula (Ia) or (Ib), as defined in claim 11, for use as a medicament.

33) Use of a compound of formula (Ia) or (Ib), as defined in claim 11, in the manufacture of a medicament with antitumor activity.